

## UNIVERSITY MISSOURIAN

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## SOME GIFTS FOR COLUMBIA

It is only the bad boy who should receive switches in his stocking, and it is only the bad city which should be slighted at Christmas time.

Wouldn't it be a surprise if, when we look into our Columbia stocking Christmas morning, we should find a set of commissioners with which to keep town or a public playground with which our children could make merry or a civic center about which to build tall buildings with the proceeds from a prosperous city?

It is probable most of us would be much more surprised than are the children when they find some marvelous gift from the bag of good St. Nicholas.

It is no more impossible for us to find such things in our stocking some day, however, than it is that they find wonderful steam engines and ideal dolls with garments straight from gay "Paree."

One difference lies here. The children expect miracles. They believe in St. Nicholas. Nothing is impossible, and everything is probable. They demand miracles. They may not always get all the miracles they wish, but they receive in proportion to what they want. You remember, the smaller you were, the more you wanted—and the more you got. The older you grew and the less strong your faith in miracles was, the less you got. It's the same way with Columbia's stocking. The more she wants and the more she believes she will get, the sooner will those things come which are necessary if Columbia is to continue to grow and wax prosperous.

So let's all light in and help fill Columbia's stocking. If certain things are impossible this year, such as commissioners, civic centers and other gifts involving the processes of law, let's fill Columbia's stocking with the lesser miracles.

Columbia's stocking will be filled with gifts, too. Happy Hollow, the children of the community and the dependents upon the charity organization will have their Christmas trees and will realize St. Nicholas—but you must help. There must be somebody to act St. Nicholas.

A current periodical is offering cash prizes for new ideas on how to make cities clean. The mayor of Ames, Ia., hit upon one that should be given consideration. After the Ames Aggies' football victory over the University of Iowa, the mayor instructed the property owners to take care of everything of value in the alleys and then told the college men to burn everything in sight. The result was a magnificent bonfire demonstration. Everybody was happy, and no one had to work. Why not try that in Columbia after every big football victory?

## TAKING THE GRIP

Bloodshot and watery eyes, headache, backache, awful grouch, uncertain steps, nerves all a-jangle, sneezes, wheezes, coughs, fever—do you have them?

No, this is not a patent medicine ad. Neither is it a lurid description of a gay young bachelor on the morning after. It is merely apropos the grip. Have you taken it yet?

You can take it most any place: at the office, at the stores, at church, at school or even in your own room. The chances are that you'll take it with you if you're leaving town for the holidays. The folks at home may think you are tipsy, but they will know better after you have given it to them. Or if you remain here at your business, it will serve as an excuse for staying away from work a few days just when the holiday rush is on and everybody that didn't shop early is grouchy as—well, almost as grouchy as a man with the grip.

It is harder to lose than the leather

grip you got for Christmas last year and is more persistent in its demands on your attention than a book agent or an insurance man.

Oh well, of course if you don't want it—But you're altogether out of style in Columbia.

Sneeze!  
Wheeze!

There, you're taking it now.

"Be quick to kick  
If things seem wrong;  
But kick to us  
And make it strong."

This is what a Los Angeles newspaper tells its advertisers and subscribers. It might be good advice for a great many more newspapers to adopt.

## COLUMBIA'S RAILROAD CURFEW

Once upon a time there was a town, whose people were permitted to go and come about as they pleased. They could get in and out of town with almost as much ease as if they were upon the main line. Citizens and strangers could leave at nearly any time up to midnight. Then the people rang their own curfew. That thriving village was Columbia.

But all is changed now. It is the railroads that ring the curfew for Columbia. True, there is a train which creates some slight disturbance by arriving at the unseemly hour of 10:10 o'clock, but the last whistle of a departing train blows significantly at 9 o'clock. At that hour, according to the edict of the railroads, Columbians should subside into slumber and await the coming of another day—and another train.

"I did not realize?" he said, "that the dark man was the villain of the play until he closed the folding doors with his hands behind his back. That settled it."

## SALINE COUNTY SPURTS AHEAD

Nearly a million and a half dollars for rock roads! Such is the ambitious dream of the county of Saline. The county court has ordered an election for January 19 to vote bonds for \$1,310,000 with which to build 92 miles of good roads.

The managers of the campaign of

education which has begun in Marshall will probably not have any great opposition to overcome. The county is an agricultural community which ought to realize the necessity of all-the-year-around roads. Saline stands first in the state in the production of corn, second in wheat and high in live stock. Poor roads place this wealth at the mercy of the weather. With rock roads, the farmer may take his produce to town when the market calls him.

With some of the richest soil and highest priced land, Saline has some of the poorest roads in the state. The agricultural achievements of the county have been made in spite of the roads. Hitherto, the county has neglected the rock roads idea; when Saline has secured its 92 miles of 365-days-in-the-year roads, it will undoubtedly become one of the wealthiest counties in the state.

With war on a peace ship, how can one expect to find peace on a warship?

## IT MAY BE SO

Do you believe in physiognomy? The chances are that you do, though you don't know it and you'd look horrified or disgusted or "peevish" if someone accused you of it. But—

Do you think that the man with the receding chin will ever win a hero medal?

Would you trust your fortune or your happiness in the hands of a man with a shifty eye?

Do you expect fine sensibilities in a man with thick, bulging lips?

Do you look for a Phi Beta Kappa pin on a man whose forehead forgot to grow up?

Do you expect the man with little, piggy eyes to take a broad, generous view of things?

Well, if you don't, you must believe some of the principles of physiognomy.

Things to worry about: That 2015 is not euphonious and is awkward to say.

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## MUCH SPEAKING SAVES CROY

Humorist Tells Story of a War-Time Adventure in France.

The proverbial tongue of woman hasn't anything on Homer Croy, when that humorist, formerly of the University of Missouri, gets into a predicament. Anyway, he told a story in Kansas City Saturday of a little French adventure which puts him in the same class as Baron Munchausen. When the war broke out, Croy was in India, making pictures for a film producing company. He got into France, and there his troubles commenced—and nearly ended. His passport, which was stamped by German officers, looked suspicious to French

soldiers; so he was blindfolded and put in front of a firing squad. But they had failed to blindfold his mouth and he got hold of an officer who knew a little English and turned loose on him.

"I quoted from thirty-eight treaties and cited every international authority from Noah to Gaby Deslys," Croy said. "I told him with fluency and facility what would happen to him if he allowed a citizen of the United States to be murdered. I told him that shooting party was misinformed, misguided and misanthropic. I proved it by logic, by logarithms, by heck. Finally he capitulated. Next day word came from an American consul and he let us go."

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without Flowers  
would be dreary  
indeed.

In order to do our part toward making the Christmas season more enjoyable, we have brought to Columbia a wealth of flowers for the Holiday season.

If you have a friend who is ill, what could express your sympathy and friendship more than a nice box of flowers.

Your parents or friends who may live away from Columbia will appreciate flowers for Christmas. Just notify us and we will see that they arrive promptly wherever you desire to send them.

You will doubtless have friends at your home during the Holidays, and for that reason will want your home to show off to very best advantage. A few potted plants or ferns will do wonders in brightening up dark corners and emphasizing the holiday season.

It is always a pleasure for us to serve you.

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